

26

Anonymous

28:00

Time to complete

## Candidate Information

1. First name \*

LaVon

2. Last name \*

Bracy Davis

3. Phone number \*

3216632057

4. Email address \*

lavonbracydavis@gmail.com

5. Campaign Website \*

<https://www.lavonbracydavis.com/>

6. Campaign Facebook \*

Representative LaVon Bracy Davis

7. Campaign Twitter \*

NA

8. Campaign Instagram \*

@lbdforflorida

9. Please list the LGBTQ+ organizations you are affiliated with and any donations you have given. \*

Equality Florida

10. Please summarize your history of community involvement. This may include city boards, civic associations, non-profits, etc. \*

LaVon Bracy Davis is the State Representative for Florida's 40th House District, overseeing Ocoee, Pine Hills, Rosemont, College Park, and unincorporated communities in Orange County. Before her legislative role, she served as an influential arts executive in Orlando and Central Florida, leading initiatives to diversify community programming and engagement in the local arts scene. Collaborating with over 200 arts groups and nonprofits, she played a key role in injecting millions of dollars into economic activation in Orlando and its surroundings.

As Former Chair of the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, Bracy Davis made significant contributions to cultural grant funding decisions and matters related to statewide cultural affairs. Notably, she played a pivotal role in selecting the sculptor responsible for creating the statue of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, now displayed in the National Statuary Hall in Washington, DC. Beyond her legislative duties, she actively engages in the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, supports the Pace Center for Girls – Orange County, FL, and volunteers for Valencia College's Take Stock in Children/Horizons mentorship program.

11. Please summarize the work you have performed in the past five years to further LGBTQ+ rights. \*

I have stood flat footed on the house floor to fight and vote against dangerous legislation that impacts our LGBTQ+ siblings.

12. Please list other endorsements you have received. \*

SEIU, Progress Florida, Florida Rising, Democratic Environmental Caucus, and countless others last cycle.

## About Your Campaign and LGBTQ Issues

13. What motivated you to run for this position? \*

I live by the mantra "service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy". I felt called to run for this seat, and hope to continue fighting for my constituents.

14. What does being an ally or advocate for the LGBTQ+ community mean to you? \*

Fighting for ALL my constituents means ALL of my constituents. I was raised to love my neighbor unconditionally and I have continued to hold that as a core value all of not just my legislative career, but my life. I am proud to be an ally to the LGBTQ+ community and to stand side by side in the fight for fundamental rights and liberties with every vote, march, and moment I am honored to serve my community.

15. Have you attended an LGBTQ+ Pride Month celebration or Orlando's Come Out With Pride? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

16. Have you attended or supported a drag show or drag performance in our community? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

17. How would you ensure that your office acknowledges and celebrates the LGBTQ+ community? \*

My office is a place where we fight for ALL. I am honored to have participated in a number of parades, events, and advocacy meetings supporting our LGBTQ+ siblings, and will continue to prioritize our attendance, support, and amplification of these activities in every way.

18. Will you ensure that you and your staff receive competency training on the LGBTQ+ community, emphasizing unconscious bias? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

19. Would you condemn instances of hate speech in your organization and the community at large? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

20. Legislation from Tallahassee has caused a sharp increase in discrimination and violence against the LGBTQ+ community in Orange County. How would you go about reducing discrimination in your District or local community? \*

I think it has never been more critical than it is now to fight for our LGBTQ+ siblings, and I think one of the most important ways to do that is by amplifying their voices through legislation and action. I regularly meet with constituents and nonprofit organizations in my district to determine they are conducting themselves with DE&I at the heart of their missions, and will continue to support pro-LGBTQ+ legislation in the Florida House.

21. There is a lack of knowledge when it comes to the transgender community. Sometimes, the services offered in public offices are often unfamiliar with the needs of the transgender community. What actions would you take to ensure that the services your office provides will be cognizant of the needs of the transgender community? \*

I think you hit the nail on the head here. I think the biggest piece here is the lack of information currently available to constituents and voters regarding this critical community is often misinformation and hate filled. I think when creating space for everyone to be at the table we need to make space for education and action to intersect.

22. During a town hall in your District, a constituent describes being gay or transgender disparagingly. How would you constructively respond in this situation? \*

I would start by reminding them that House District 40 is a place of support, a place of love for thy neighbor, and not a place for hate filled speech and let them know that their comments are not welcome.

23. How would you respond to a person intentionally misgendering a transgender or non-binary person? \*

I think the biggest thing you can do here is try! If it's a constituent or individual I know, I'm happy to correct the pronoun so that it's correct moving forward.

24. Orange County continues to embrace urban sprawl despite a plethora of data that links urban sprawl to severe strains on our housing, employment, healthcare, and public transit systems (to name a few). What are your thoughts on Orange County's growth? \*

Orange County continues to grow and prosper and I think in many areas of the region that will continue.

25. To expand upon the prior statement, what could Orange County do regarding development that would better serve the communities in your District? \*

My constituency base is primarily located in Pine Hills, College Park, and Eatonville, historically majority black areas. I think Orange County can do a better job of combatting the food dessert in our district and fighting for economic advantages for our unique populations.

## Elected Office Position Selection

Upon answering below, you will be presented with a unique set of questions related to the position in question.

26. Please choose the position you are running for. \*

- ☐ Orange County Sheriff
- ☐ Orange County Supervisor of Elections
- ☐ Orange County Tax Collector
- ☐ Orange County Property Appraiser Questions
- ☐ Orange County Clerk of Courts & Comptroller
- ☐ City of Orlando Commissioner
- ☐ Orange County Commissioner
- ☐ Orange County School Board
- ☐ Orange County Soil & Water
- ☐ Orange County State Attorney
- ☐ Orange County Circuit Court Judge
- ☒ State House
- ☐ State Senate

## State House Questions

27. Will you support/co-sponsor legislation to make it illegal to fire someone, deny them housing, or reject their access to public accommodations because of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

28. Will you support legislation requiring fair and equal access to essential healthcare for transgender persons? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

29. Would you oppose any and all legislation that criminalizes the medical treatment of transgender youth? If not, why? \*

Yes

30. Will you oppose using taxpayer dollars to subsidize private and charter schools that discriminate against LGBTQ+ students and families? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

31. Do you support teaching comprehensive, LGBTQ-inclusive, age-appropriate sex education and HIV/STD prevention programs in our public schools? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No



32. Would you support/co-sponsor legislation creating a non-binary gender marker option on state licenses? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

33. What kind of gun safety measures do you support that would reduce potential violence against the LGBTQ+ community and general gun violence? \*

Gun safety is one of my major focuses, and I have been advocating nonstop for all sorts of gun safety legislation.

34. What gun safety measures would you advocate for within the State Legislature? \*

Last session I filed a bill I am planning to refile that creates conflict resolution courses in schools to teach children how to properly deal with conflict and anger and not resort to violence.

35. Which steps would you take to ensure the safety of patients, doctors, and staff of reproductive healthcare facilities such as Planned Parenthood? \*

I think this is especially timely with the legislation currently at the forefront of Florida politics. I think we have to work with local nonprofits and advocacy groups to create safe spaces around our healthcare providers until we can protect them with meaningful legislation

36. How would you respond to instances of hate crimes in Orange County (antisemitism, anti-LGBTQ+, anti-immigrant, etc.)? \*

Unacceptable. No question about it, and I have never had an issue with raising my voice in instances of injustice and this would be no exception to that rule. I would publicly condemn and work with involved parties to seek justice and action.

37. How would you work to decrease income inequality and promote affordable living in Florida? \*

This is particularly relevant in my district. I work every day to fight for legislation to protect my constituents and provide more access to equal economic opportunities.

38. Despite mental illness among adults and children being at an all-time high, Florida ranks next to last on per capita spending on mental health programs. What are your immediate and long-term plans for addressing this epidemic in Florida? \*

I have always voted in favor of mental health bills and will continue advocating to protect our children and families in and out of the school system, and in the prison system as they face challenges with mental health care access.

39. The Florida Republican Party is passing legislation that strips away LGBTQ+ rights, starting with our children. These shamelessly discriminatory bills force LGBTQ+ families to reconsider their future in Florida. What would you tell the parents of LGBTQ+ children in your District who feel they must leave Florida to protect their children? \*

Florida is worth fighting for, and we must fight for a better Florida for our children each and every day. And I am committed to that fight alongside you.

40. The Trevor Project's 2022 National Survey on LGBTQ+ Youth Mental Health found that 45% of LGBTQ+ students seriously considered suicide, and 1-in-5 LGBTQ+ attempted it. How would you lead on this issue and work to decrease these statistics during your term in office? \*

I am happy to support legislation combatting this very serious issue. My background is in arts and education and the intersection there has always allowed opportunities for positive impact in this area specifically.

41. What are the top environmental concerns you feel should be addressed, and what solutions do you plan to bring forward if you were elected? \*

I am happy to support bills that protect our beautiful states environments and to fight alongside advocates in and out of my district

## Additional Questions

42. Is there anything else you want us to know about why the Rainbow Democrats should support your candidacy?